GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:514
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2007
HUMAN TRAFFICKING
Bhagora Shri Mahavir;Jogi Shri Ajit;Patil Smt. Rupatai Diliprao Nilangekar;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed;Tripathi Shri Chandramani

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has become a hub of human trafficking particularly of women and children from Nepal and Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether women and children who are victims of human trafficking are diverted towards flesh trade;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check human trafficking and flesh trade?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO H. GAVIT)

(a) to (d): There are no authentic or substantiated reports that India has become a hub of human trafficking. However, a few incidents have come to the notice of the Government of India of trafficking in women and children from Nepal and Bangladesh, some of whom were being trafficked for the purpose of prostitution.

(e) "Police" and "Public Order" are state subjects, and the State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention and combating of crime of human trafficking. However, the Union Government is taking several measures, in concert with the State Govt. for prevention and control of crime of trafficking as well as measures for rehabilitation of victims. The Union Government has advised all the State Governments to deal with the crime of trafficking in a holistic manner and to evolve an effective and comprehensive strategy encompassing rescue, relief and rehabilitation of victims besides taking deterrent action against the law violators. The Ministry of Home Affairs has set up a Nodal Cell to coordinate matters relating to trafficking in human beings between the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations and other related Ministries etc. and organizing co- ordination meetings to review and sensitize Police Officers of the States/Union Territories on the subject.

The Ministry of Home Affairs had also constituted a Working Group of Directors General of Police of some of the affected States to study issues relating to cross border trafficking in women and children and make suitable recommendations for dealing with the problem. These recommendations have been forwarded to the State Governments for evolving a comprehensive strategy for effectively dealing with the problem of trafficking. Border guarding forces have also been directed to exercise vigilance against cross border trafficking. The issue of cross-border trafficking was also discussed during the recent meeting of representatives of the SAARC countries on the implementation of the SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution.